9-9-09

Valley College fees surprisingly less than other state community colleges. 2

Schools budget woes come when we have only just begun. 3

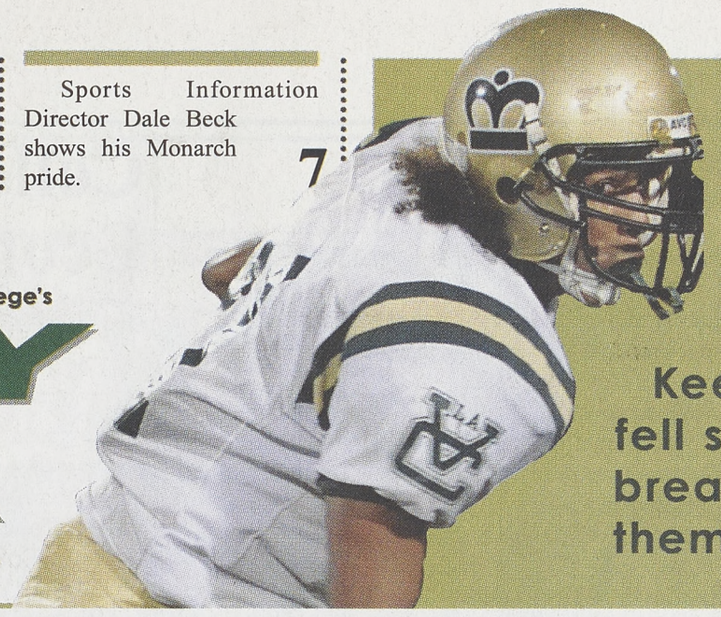
Scholarships awarded to sudents for their hard work and achievements. 4

Sports Information Director Dale Beck shows his Monarch pride. 7

los angeles valley college's

VALLEY STAR

the independent student newspaper



MONARCHS FALTER IN SEASON OPENER

Keeping it close, Valley fell short after a 4th quarter breakdown costing them the game. »6

September 9, 2009 | Volume 71, Issue 1

RISING FROM THE ASHES

SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

NATALIE KESHISHIAN
STAFF WRITER

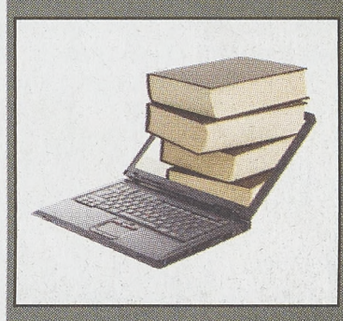
The deadly Station wildfire is near full containment after burning more than 160,000 acres and leaving two firefighters dead. Although the $43.5 million fire is mostly contained, Valley College's Health Center Physician Assistant Sonia Nodal urges students to take some basic precautions, such as trying to limit exposure to poor air quality by avoiding any unnecessary outdoor activities.

"The first few days of the fires, everyone was taking all the precautions into consideration," said Nodal. "After a week, since every day looks the same and smells the same, people start getting used to it and stop taking precautions. Let us not put our guards down. Prevention of dehydration and harmful smoke inhalation should continue on a daily basis until the Los Angeles Public Health Department indicates otherwise."

»TO READ MORE OF THIS STORY VISIT LAVALLEYSTAR.COM

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

Budgets Can't Stop Toddler Fun- *Baby and Parent Sessions continue into the Fall Semester, giving student and local parents a valid resource to reach out to.*



The world at your fingertips - *Valley College's online library offers vast Internet options to studets in need of research alternatives.*

These full stories and more can be read online @ www.lavalleystar.com

California's State Universities Close Door on Spring Transfer

CSU ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCES CLOSE OF ALL SPRING TRANSFER FOR 2010 AND POSSIBLY 2011.

LUCAS THOMPSON
SPORTS EDITOR

The Los Angeles Community College district will not see any growth in transfer rates this coming spring as the California State University assembly announces a complete freeze on all undergraduate transfers for the 2010 spring semester.

Though spring transfers are closed, transfer admission guarantees (TAG's) are still available according to Career/Transfer Director Synthia Saltoun. "For Spring 2010 transfer admissions, CSUN along with other CSU and UC's only accepted applications from those who had TAG agreements. Generally a TAG agreement has to be written one year before the student plans to transfer."

The recent budget which was passed by the assembly had a $53 million dollar cut to CSU this year, which is predicted to affect the CSU system into 2011 according to Terry Piper, vice president of student affairs at Cal State University Northridge.

"One of the strategies which has been deployed is to cut the amount of full time equivalent students," Piper states.

Full time equivalent students are students who average 15 credit units per semester. Each semester there is a maximum of equivalent students that the assembly vows acceptable for the budget to enroll, which will be cut by 2500 this fall and coming spring according to the CSU assembly.

CSUN administrators have confirmed that they will be looking very carefully at each application; any student lacking all aspects of each requirement will not be admitted to the University with any exceptions.

|See **TRANSFER**, Page 2|

BBQ Feeds Students and Collects Contacts

JONATHAN SEELEY
STAFF WRITER

The Associated Student Union (ASU) spent $800 and served nearly 1,500 hotdogs to students in Monarch Square early last week in an effort to raise awareness of its presence and function on campus.

Part of the ASU's goal was to promote a spirit of transparency and get students to answer a questionnaire. ASU was successful in handing out the hotdogs, but less so in gathering contact information.

"Free food, I dig it," said Valley College student Tamar Jones when asked about the ASU BBQ.

The ASU used a conveyor-belt approach by providing the students with hotdogs, drinks and candies in the hope that students would provide their name, email, and telephone number, once they reached the end of the line. At first glance, not many students left contact information and at one point, ASU President Arthur Minasyan said the list was lost. ASU Vice President Ian Coyne revealed the final contact list count at 105 students, which is an improvement from last year's number of 13.

Poor air quality from wild fires, temperatures in the mid 90s, high humidity, and a crowded campus didn't stop people from jumping into line for the free food.

SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

HOT DOG! - ASU PRESIDENT, ARTHUR MINASYAN, SERVES UP HOT DOGS ON TUESDAY OUTSIDE MONARCH HALL AS PART OF THE ASU NEW STUDENT WELCOME.

"It's hot back here, but it's worth it.", said Arthur Minasyan from his post behind the BBQ grill. "The ASU this year has a clean slate financially, a new face, and is attempting to be more transparent. Most students don't even know what the ASU does."

Coyne stated he had been talking to people all day spreading the message about the ASU.

"Basically, various committees run this school, and ASU serves as representatives on those committees where we get two votes on actions," he said. "We listen to students and act as a liaison, or bridge, between the students and faculty."

A blue tarp and tent poles provided shade for volunteers adjacent to the grill, two of whom sat behind a table and handed out candy, and sold soda for $1. Some of the volunteers included the cheer squad, football team and honor society.

"This is a great way to welcome people to campus, remind us to pay their events fees, and you can't beat free food," commented honors society treasurer, Cody Lewin.

Flu Season Preparations Under way

RAY BLUMHORST
STAFF WRITER

Winter is the time of year when flu season shows up across America, infecting millions of people. This year's flu season will be different. In addition to the seasonal flu, swine flu is another strain that will be infecting Americans, possibly including Valley College's students, faculty, and staff.

Reported cases show young people may be more at risk of contracting swine flu than older people, because of older people's more developed immune systems, according to the Center for Disease Control. Some Valley students are optimistic they'll get through this year's flu season with few problems.

"I plan to keep going to classes if I just have sniffles," said Valley student Joaquin Carvajal. "If I'm really sick and can't attend classes, I'll get help from classmates to help me keep current in classes."

|See **FLU**, Page 2|

'Transfer'

continued from page 1

According to Carleo; CSUN is under strict orders to hold enrollment to their funded base.

In result fall registration for all Cal State schools will still be accepted, but with sooner deadlines and added restrictions in the acceptance process. The opening in enrollment for 2011 and possibly 2012 may be closed as soon as Nov. instead of the normal spring cutoff.

"Students who had counted on going to CSUN may want to consider other public or private colleges, as well," Valley College President Sue Carleo said. "We are in a difficult period and it is frustrating for all of us. Being flexible and considering more than one option would be a wise move at this time."

With more budget cuts to come, the restrictions and accelerated deadlines will most likely continue into 2011 and possibly into 2012. Administrations from both CSUN and LAVC are advising students to enroll on time and to more than one school.

"Apply during the guaranteed admissions period…(and) meet the qualifications," advised Piper.

'Flu'

continued from page 1

Flu season came early this year to the University of Kansas. Two students have been diagnosed with the H1N1, swine flu and quarantined to their dorm room, while about 340 more are suspected of having swine flu.

This year's flu strains are causing some extra steps to be taken in the local health community this year. Three different flu shots, likely available by October, are being proposed by the Los Angeles County Public Health Department. Two of the shots are for swine flu and the other shot is for the seasonal flu.

"The two-dose H1N1 vaccine will be distributed through normal providers, such as your doctor or some pharmacies and workplaces, and through some public organizations, such as Public Health," said the department. "More than one flu virus can circulate through communities, which is why we're also promoting the seasonal flu vaccine."

At Valley's Student Health Center, preparations for flu season are still being worked out. "I'm in the middle of discussions whether we're going to get free swine flu vaccines here for the students," said Valley Physician Assistant, Sonia Nodal. "The seasonal health vaccine will be available for a nominal fee."

Los Angeles Community College District officials are presently weighing all options. "Our district offices will be assisting us with this issue and we should have more details in a few weeks," said Valley President, Sue Carleo.

Some at Valley are not in favor of getting a flu shot. "I've never had a flu shot," said Nathan Lopez, age 24, of the Outreach and Recruitment Office. "I can't afford flu shots, but if they're free I still wouldn't get them."

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, appearing on ABC's "Good Morning America," said federal officials want to make sure that every person between 5 and 24 gets the vaccine, free of charge.

The Valley Star is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program. Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue, Valley Glen, CA 91401, (818) 947-2576. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Materials published herein, including any opinions expressed and advertisements should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any office or employee thereof. **Editorials** are the opinion of the editorial board only and do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff. **Columns** are the opinion of the writer. **Letters** are the opinions of the reader.

College Fees A Boon For Economic Downturn

SUSAN MASHEVICH
STAFF WRITER

The grass isn't always greener on the other side, as fee research and comparisons found that Valley College has some of the lowest fees among Southern California Community Colleges.

Although California has some of the lowest tuition fees in the country, all of the state's community colleges took a hit with the general tuition fee increase from $20 per unit to $26 enforced this Fall 2009 Semester in an action taken by the state to increase revenues and fill in the gaps created by the budget deficit.

Fee increases have a direct affect upon students, yet despite this years' fee increase enrollment at Valley has gone up 1,000 students.

Valley President Sue Carleo, said, " Our students have a lot of cost and to the greatest extent we don't want to add to those costs," she said. She also explained that 'parking money'' or money collected from the cost of parking permits, all goes towards resurfacing, updating the parking lots, and employing the parking cadets.

Fan Kung, current supervising accounting technician at Valley's Business Office, Fan Kung, explained that prior to the tuition fee changes the Los Angeles Community College District took a survey from students to consider how large a fee increase could help fill the need for revenues yet still please students.

Health and parking fees at colleges like LAVC, Pierce, & LACC haven't yet had any changes. Health fees seem to stay at $11 and parking permits range from $20-$27 (preferred spots), even with cramped parking conditions.

However, an experience with Santa Monica College parking permits and conditions seemed to present more extreme obstacles. This fall semester, SMC has hiked its parking fee from $45 to $85, yet still commands hour-long waiting lines of students, who are ready to buy the permit and can't take advantage of the free shuttle, for days after school has begun.

When Valley College and former Chico State student, Micaela Onowen, was told the results of the SMC parking fee comparison she was shocked by the high prices

"Oh my gosh, are you kidding?" she stated. "How can they charge that much for a Community College?"

Previously she had been pleasantly surprised by the cost of Valley College parking in relation to her Cal State University $50 permit parking.

Currently the Sheriff's office reminds Valley students that they will also be given a two week grace period from the beginning of this semester to acquire their parking permits and not be cited for parking without a permit, free parking will last until Sept. 14, 2009.

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Thank you for sending us your best and your brightest.

BSM Graduates, April 2009:

First Row: Dr. John Mooney (faculty), Dorice Cooper, Lupe Hernandez, Marisa Fujimoto, Cynthia Ayala, Lynie Ueda, Nyah Asanok, Beatriz Rivera, Agatha Pierre, Dr. Ron Ford (faculty);
Second Row: Brandon Coen, Elvira Bannon, Latania Wood, Viviana Arellano, Edwin Polanco, Ralph Klink, Elizabeth Dyer, Karla Gorgij;
Third Row: Arturo Cabral, Phillip Cutler, Darryl Harvey, Tyrone D. Stallings, Jasmine Rodriguez, Hugo Ayala;
Fourth Row: Cary Heaton, Andrew Stajduhar, Robert Bishop, Scott Dunkle

Our Thanks Go Out to the Transfer Center Counselors at the Following Community Colleges:

Coastline Community College
College of the Canyons
Cypress College
El Camino College
Fullerton Community College
Glendale Community College
Irvine Valley College
Los Angeles Valley College
Moorpark College
Orange Coast College
Pasadena City College
Pierce College
Riverside Community College
Saddleback College
Santa Barbara City College
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Danger! Danger, Community Colleges!

■ **With no relief in sight, community college budget woes are just begining.**

ROBERT R. KING
OPINION EDITOR

The effects of the California budget crisis on Valley College produced noticeable results last week when students returned from the summer layoff. Classrooms are crowded, hallways are jammed, and students are having a hard time enrolling in classes they need to transfer.

The problem remains. There just isn't enough money for everything the school needs to accomplish.

"Our main goal is to serve the students by offering the classes they need," said Valley Vice President of Academic Affairs Sandy Mayo. "But we're short in a lot of areas. The fact that we don't have people [in many areas] will end up costing us money."

While the district is saving money on not rehiring hourly employees, the cost of having instructors rummaging for misplaced equipment or having that equipment break because of misuse could easily eclipse a lab tech's salary, according to Mayo.

The current path laid by the state legislature will only deepen the crisis to a more critical level sooner than anyone may predict unless action is taken.

The Legislative Analyst Office released a report in July to try and explain the budget cuts to the state's schools. The report stated that $115 million of the 2009-2010 school year budgets would be paid next year. The poorly worded report also seems to state that a portion of the current cut will also be deferred.

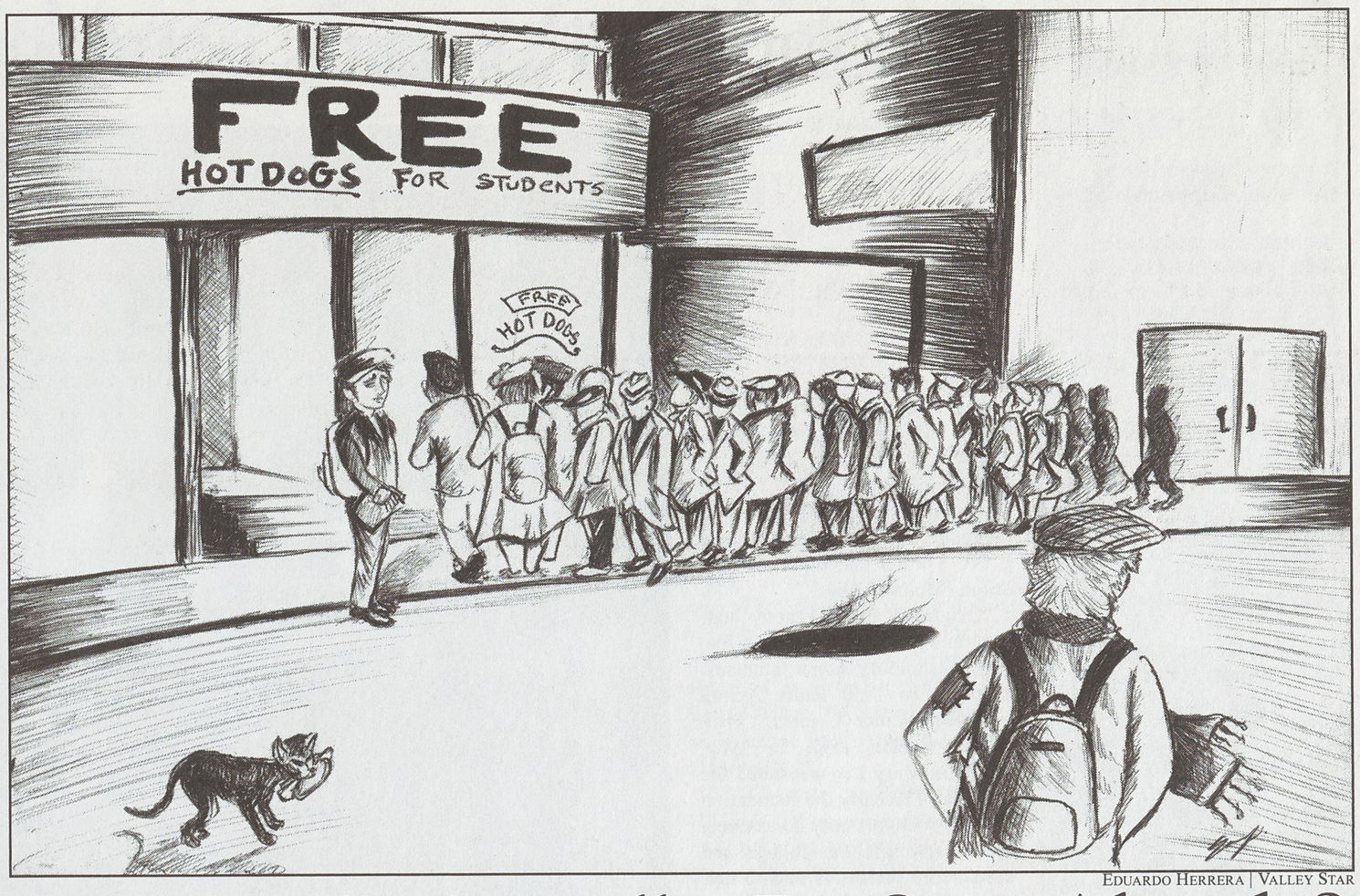
"It's confusing," said Valley President Sue Carleo. "But basically the state is drawing a line with the amount of funding [for community colleges]."

The bottom line: No matter the interpretation of the LAO report, there is already a deficit in place for the 2010-2011 school year and the first week of '09-'10 just ended.

No matter the difficulties, the worst could still be on the horizon. With the Employment Development Department reporting a continued rise in unemployment rates and CNN reporting a foreclosure rate of three times the national average, the state's main tax base is still being eroded.

It is easy to see the tailspin forming and education will continue to suffer unless something is done. Budgets will continue to be slashed, and yes, fees are likely to go up again in order for the state's colleges to remain functional.

Carleo agrees: it is up to students everywhere to put pressure on legislators and government officials or else the worst has just begun.



EDUARDO HERRERA | VALLEY STAR

Summer Can't Really Be Over Already?

■ **Students are back in school but can't wait for the next break to roll around.**

SARAH KNOWLES
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The summer brought new love, exciting getaways and new friends for Valley College students, however some things never change; arriving back at Valley brought the monotonous woes we have all come to expect, as most of us just look forward to the end of the year to take another well-deserved break.

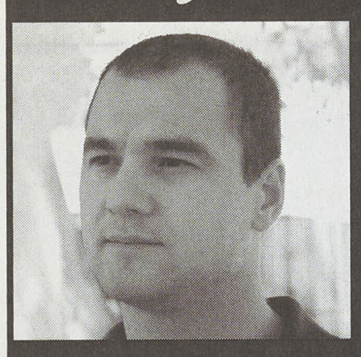
On the first day of school, most students were trying to get their fees paid, however many had a shock after learning fees went up an extra $6 per unit as a way to ease California's economic woes, according to the Valley Web site – it's a shame that Valley didn't decide to cut the crazy allocations to certain departments. Who uses the Lions' Den, anyway?

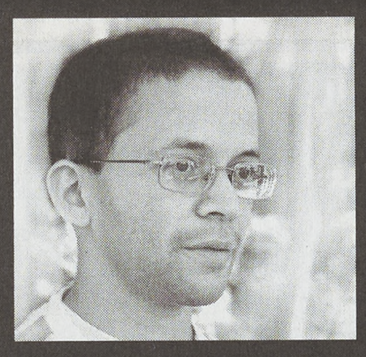
Money issues will obviously loom over this semester, thankfully it doesn't seem like the wonderful ASU will have to worry about it - thousands of free hotdogs were passed out this week in Monarch Square during their much-anticipated welcome week. A free wiener is always fun, but students were quick to learn that just isn't worth the ASU-centered questions asked in order to receive the beefy treat. Barely a week into school and the newcomers have already learned that the best way to avoid these food-bribing activists is to just stay away from the lair of such types, Monarch Square, altogether.

The Scholarship & Award Night took place last week, as students were rewarded for their hard work, diligence and financial need. According to the program, 211 awards were given out, though approximately 50 students turned up to the show. Way to show your appreciation for that new iPhone you were able to buy! Hey, I guess you all had more important things to do like figure out where your next handful of free cash will come from.

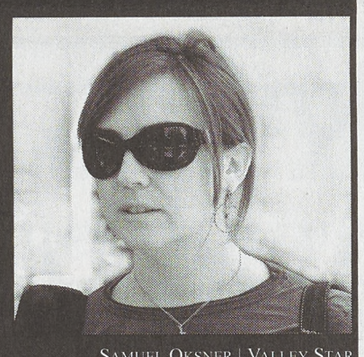
Optimism is always the way to go in order to get through a successful semester. And think of all the fun we have to look forward to! There's the continuing construction that never seems to get anything done, the cafeteria with endless management that can never figure out that cheap prices=good sales and not to forget the endless circles we have to make in the parking lot to find a space... Ok so maybe not, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel - only four months to go.

Valley View: How have the budget cuts affected you?


"ONE SIMPLE WORD: BADLY. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I"M TAKING"
- JONNY SALIN
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING


"UNFORTUNATELY BECAUSE CLASSES ARE BEING CUT THERE ARE FEWER OPTIONS"
- RUDY ZAPATA
ENGINEERING

"CLASSES ARE JAM PACKED... IT'S FRUSTRATING, STRESSFUL AND NOT SO FUN"
- DOMINIQUE GODINAS
ART


"I APPLIED TO CAL STATE BUT BECAUSE OF BUDGET CUTS I COULDN'T GET IN"
- ALISON TONG
ART

SAMUEL OKSNER | VALLEY STAR

D.C. Odd Couple Frenemies Afterall

■ **Orrin Hatch said he was with Kennedy on healthcare, until Teddy died.**

JOSH SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

Like Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt only to fall short of the promised land, Ted Kennedy worked feverishly in his last days to promote universal health care, crafting what was described as his "political will." Fortunately Senator Kennedy passed away before he could see what he considered to be his life's work be used by republicans to further their agenda.

President Obama stated that "for five decades, virtually every major piece of legislation to advance the civil rights, health and economic well being of the American people bore his name and resulted from his efforts."

Republican Senator Orrin Hatch from Utah had his own take.

"The first thing he would've done was call me and say 'let's get [healthcare] done, '" stated Hatch in an interview with FoxNews. "But at that particular point he didn't have the energy to be able to drive it through and of course I was prepared to put it together that would make all sides come together."

There are monkeys who've had better success throwing feces against the wall and making it stick than Hatch sounding the slightest bit sincere. First, this hardly sounded like the Kennedy that made numerous senate meetings during his final months including two meetings that prevented republican filibustering, all while battling a malignant brain tumor. Second, this is to say that Hatch would've put all this together, not Kennedy, which is obviously not the case.

What's perplexing about Hatch's statement is that if they were as friendly as stated, he would've found a way to help win one for Teddy.

In truth, Hatch never had the intention of voting with Kennedy regarding health care. Hatch has even said "More often than not, I was trying to derail whatever big government scheme he had concocted." Hatch's declination of the subject due to Kennedy's death is an offensive copout, and an insult to democratic leadership.

This is a prime example of republicans still thinking they are in charge of government and it's getting old. We have republicans like Hatch in office crying wolf in congress and spinning the issue of healthcare reform to the point that we have people at town halls screaming, "I want my country back!" without knowing why.

It would be nice someday to see the most liberated country in the world have universal health care, or even just an open discussion about policy without using scare tactics or invoking dead leaders to prove a point. I would like my country back.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THIS PAGE ARE SOLEY THOSE OF THE AUTHOR AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE VALLEY STAR, ITS INSTRUCTORS, EDITORS, STAFF OR THOSE OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE, ITS ADMINISTRATORS, FACULTY, STAFF, OR STUDENTS

Evening Classes Ask Students to Sacrifice

■ **People with jobs and daytime obligations must give up a lot to pursue dreams.**

IVAN ZUNIGA
STAFF WRITER

The thought of having to come to school at night might be foreign to some, but that is the only way for many to excel due to daytime commitments. Nighttime classes help people with daytime commitments access school and the students' sacrifices underline their dedication to success.

While these classes give students from all walks of life a chance to balance out their daily routines many must make very difficult decisions in their personal lives, .

"I do prefer teaching evening classes versus morning, because of the interesting diversity of students we tend to see in the evening classes," said Cinema Professor Eric Swelstad. "Many students work during the daytime, and are unable to take day classes, but at night we have a healthy mixture of all ages and interests."

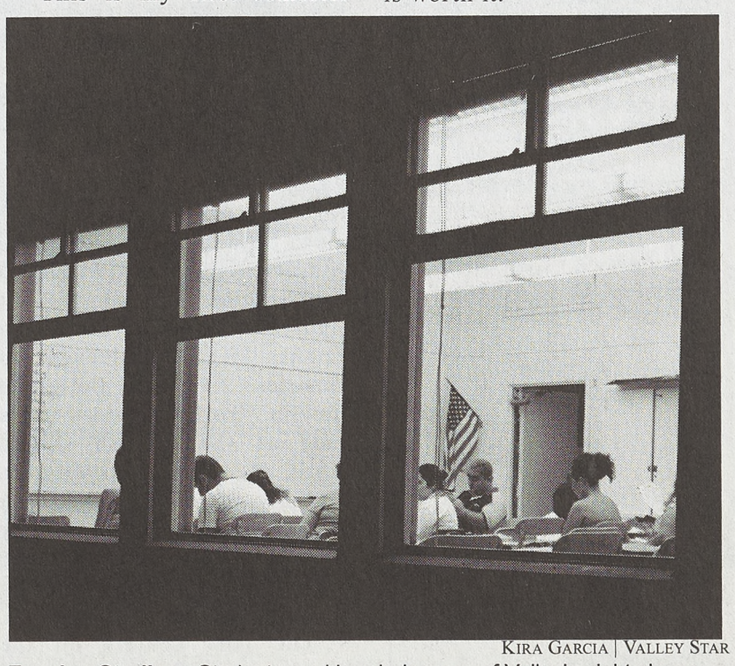
Some evening classes meet for about two evenings per week for only eight weeks, making these classes faster paced than usual. This discourages some students due to the amount of work given and long hours spent in class and puts extra strain on the students who stick around.

Starting this fall semester, some students are finding out for themselves the challenges evening classes have to offer.

"This is my first semester taking an evening class and I'm slowly getting used to it, mostly because I used to take morning classes and I feel I can concentrate more at night because my mind is more awake around that time," said Valley College student Chris Hakverdian.

Also, when students enter these classes their minds are filled with so many other concerns. This makes it harder for them focus on their studies. Whether its math or English students should be able to, but can't, put all their attention into their studies and not have to worry about their day at work or other commitments.

However, it is up to the student to decide whether they can keep up with speed of the class even if it means having to spend less time with friends or family. For many, the sacrifice is worth it.


KIRA GARCIA | VALLEY STAR
Evening Studies - Students working during one of Valley's night classes.

WEDNESDAY TO TUESDAY

Tuesday, September 8 - Thursday, September 10

"Annual Student Show 2009" sponsored by the Art Gallery @ 11 am- 2 pm & 6- 9 pm (Art Gallery); Free - Contact: (818) 778-5536 www.lavc.edu/arts/artgallery.html

Thursday, September 10

Community Job Fair sponsored by Job Training @ 10 am- 1 pm (Faculty Lounge); Free – Contact: Job Training (818) 947-2941 jaramiaj@lavc.edu

Interclub Council Meeting – ASU Meeting Room 1pm

Friday, September 11

FALL SEMESTER 2009 DEADLINE TO PROCESS ADD PERMITS FOR CREDIT, NON-CREDIT, AND AUDIT WITH ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Last day to process Fall Semester Prerequisite Challenge

Fall Semester Walk-in Registration @ 8 am- 4 pm (Campus Center) – Contact: Admissions & Records (818) 947-2553

Full Time Faculty Orientation sponsored by the AFT Faculty Guild @ 9 am- 12 noon (Cafeteria Conference Room) – Contact: Deborah Kaye (818) 947-2569 kayedr@lavc.edu

Saturday, September 12

Fall Semester Walk-in Registration @ 9 am- 1 pm (Campus Center) – Contact: Admissions & Records (818) 947-2553

Regional Meeting for Adjunct Faculty sponsored by AFT Faculty Guild @ 9 am- 1 pm (Cafeteria) – Contact: Deborah Kaye (818) 947-2569 kayedr@lavc.edu

Monday, September 14

Fall Semester 2009 Deadline to drop classes without incurring fees (in-person, by telephone and Internet)

Fall Semester 2009 Deadline to drop classes with refund of enrollment fees (in-person, by telephone and Internet)

Greater Valley Glen Council Meeting @ 6- 10 pm (Faculty Lounge) Contact: GVGC (818) 772-GVGC www.GVGC.us

THIS WEEK IN ENTERTAINMENT

@THE MOVIES

9 (on Wed.) - Animation Elijah Wood

Sorority Row - Horror Carrie Fisher

Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself - Comedy / Drama

Whiteout - Thriller Kate Beckinsale

Beyond a Reasonable Doubt - Thriller Michal Douglas

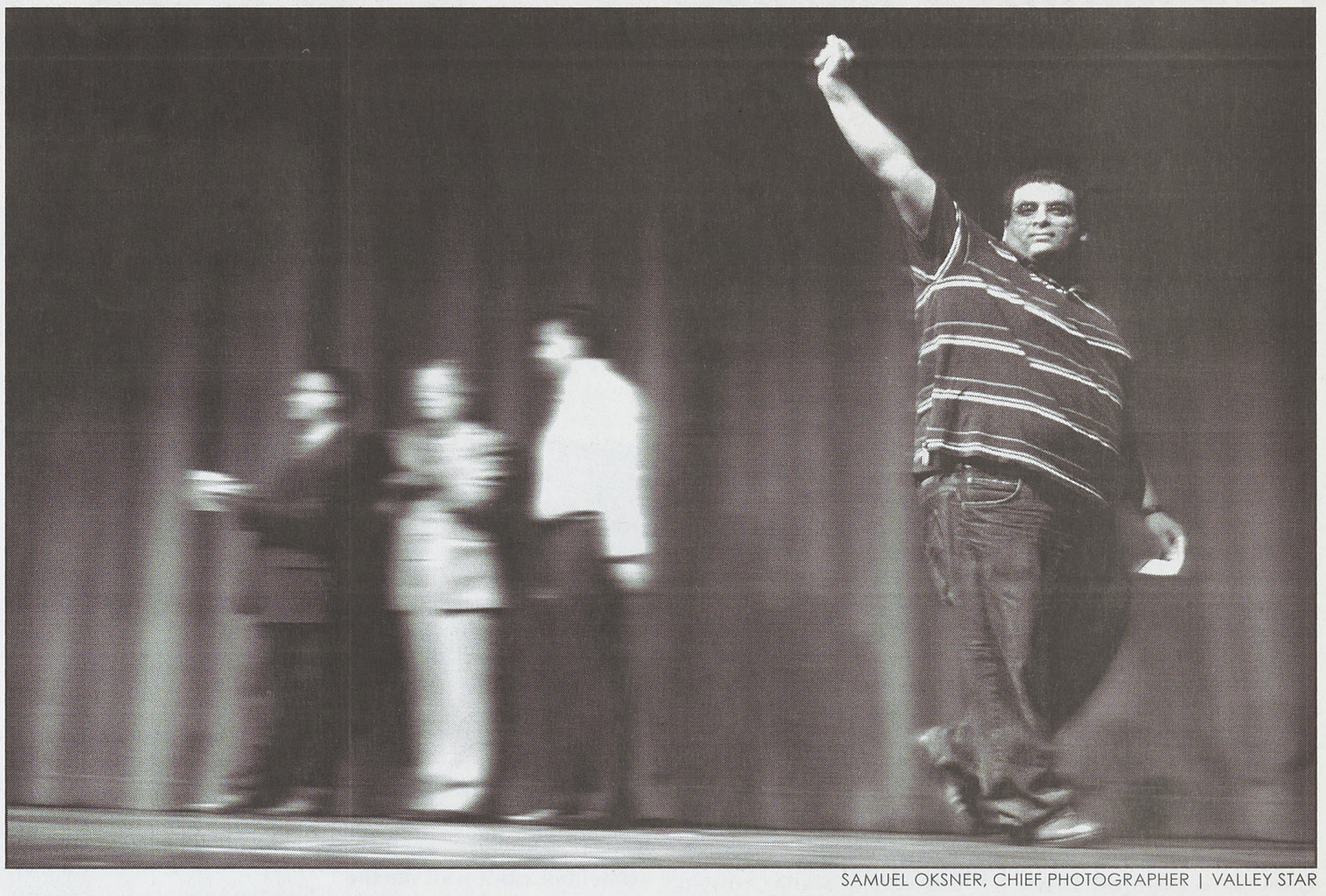
Crude (on Wed.) Documentary

No Impact Man Documentary

Scholarship Remains Foundation of Community

THE ANNUAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CELEBRATES ITS 49TH YEAR.

A. RAMACHANDRAN
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR



SAMUEL OKSNER, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR

VICTORY MARCH: Proud Scholar-A student shows his pride as he walks off stage during last weeks scholarship awards in the Main Theater.

Los Angeles Valley College begins its 60th year, with the annual LAVC Foundation Scholarship and Awards Program. The Sept. 2 ceremony honored 2008-09 award recipients in the more intimate LAVC Theater instead of the cavernous Monarch Hall.

"Originally the ceremony honored the Valedictorian, Salutatorian and outstanding honor students. It began in 1950 under Acting President Walter Coultas," Prof. Alfred Zucker said. In 1989, President Mary Lee reinstated the tradition. Presently the foundation takes the opportunity to connect the community, the college and scholarship recipients and to celebrate their achievements.

Jason Schaff, Editor of the San Fernando Valley Business Journal, serves as the LAVC Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair. He sees the event as "the business and civic organizations building a relationship with the college in the interest of fostering community through scholarship and treating education as our number one social need."

Various endowments funded 83 scholarships and awarded 211 winners with money to continue their studies. Approximately 50-60 of the recipients attended the ceremony and personally received their awards according to Roxy Zamora, Senior Office Assistant in the President's Office.

"We wanted full attendance, but not everyone could make it because of various commitments," President Sue Carleo said concerning the absent recipients and the ceremony in general. "However, it's as much about the awarding of the scholarships and taking this opportunity for students to celebrate and have their work personally validated."

External donors and Valley College faculty created scholarships. Prof. Joan Koplow and friends created the Rose Kornbluth Memorial Writing Award to honor Koplow's mother. This year's winner, English major and filmmaker Jamie Moniz won the award by writing an inspirational essay based on Sylvia Plath's "Elm," a poem about a woman's out of body reflections upon her own madness.

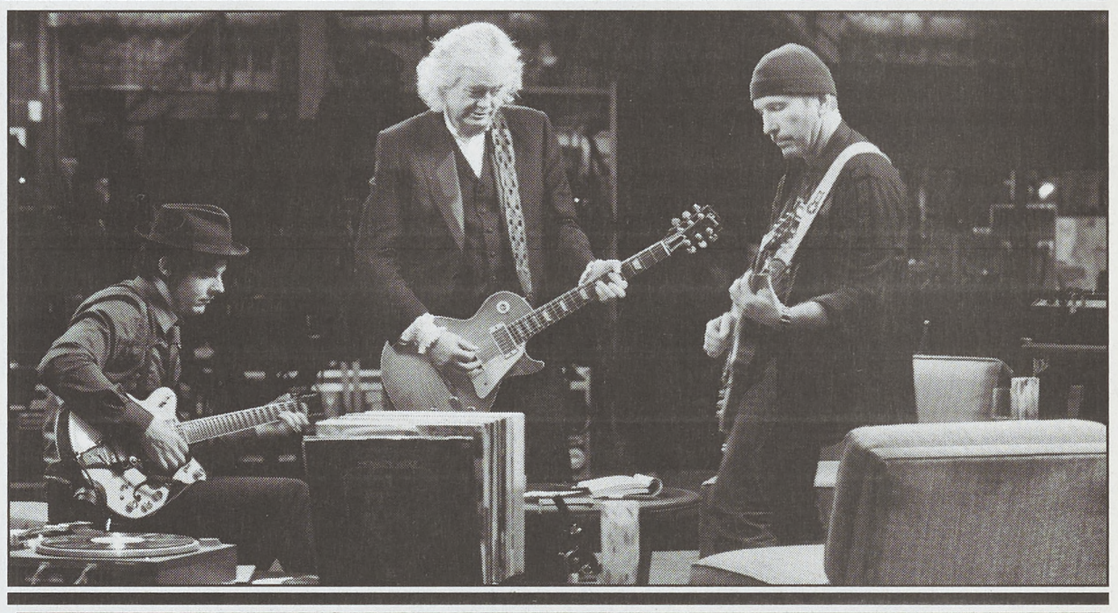
"It's about hysteria. I think it was brave of Plath to invite readers to experience her madness and bravery was the theme of my essay," Moniz said.

Top award winners included Rahul Singh with five awards totaling approximately $3000. Former ASU secretary Josh Bovill won two awards of $2500. Former ASU President Joshua Logan Wible won four awards nearing $2000. Benjamin Moye won two awards totaling $1750. Lauren Lees and Rafael Corral each won $500 in scholarships.

Chantelle Brown won one of the Providence-Tarzana Charitable Foundation Scholarships. She is nursing student focusing on pediatrics, labor and delivery and summed up the feelings of many in attendance.

"It gives me hope and strength to pursue this vocation and to be at my best right now in my academics and later for my future patients."

Three Guitar Heroes get their Geek on... Loudly



GUGGENHEIM'S NEW DOCUMENTARY "IT MIGHT GET LOUD" PUTS LEGENDARY GUITARIST IN NEW

JOSH SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

The idea and beauty of Davis Guggenheim's documentary It Might Get Loud is deceptively simple. Put three legendary guitarists into the same room to talk shop, play some songs and see what happens.

The film focuses on Jack White (The White Stripes), The Edge (U2), and Jimmy Page (Led Zeppelin) and shows how their music is an extension of who the are and how they grew up.

Guggenheim characterizes each guitarist through interviews and performance clips and the audience witnesses the evolution of each of their signature sounds. The film emphasizes the influences of musicians like Lead Belly and Howlin' Wolf, and movements such as the English skiffle craze, and 1970s punk on each of the guitarists. Viewers get a contemporary music history lesson and perspective on where these three guitarists rank in rock history.

The film centers on the internal struggles and turmoil that Page, Edge, and White experience pursuing their craft. The evident internal struggle shows the audience how all three question their art, their talent and themselves. These universal introspections unite the guitarists and provide common ground with the audience.

It Might Get Loud gives the viewer one of the ultimate "what if?" scenarios with Page, White, and Edge jamming on each other's songs. Page and White try to keep pace with the Edge's chromatic riffing on the U2's "I Wilvl Follow." White then steals the spotlight with a bluesy solo during Led Zeppelin's "In My Time of Dying." Later, the Edge and Page try to get a feel for White's slide technique on "Dead Leaves and The Dirty Ground."

Guggenheim deserves credit for creating intimacy and parity between audience and the guitarists. He puts viewers into the conversation and on the inside of the joke. The film also strips away the pretension and posturing of the Rock &Roll stage and allows these guitarists to talk shop. The rock personas fall away, and the viewer just sees three regular guys who love the guitar and craft of music.

It Might Get Loud is not only a standout film amongst its genre, but is worthy of repeated viewing by all music fans and essential for all guitarists, expert or novice.

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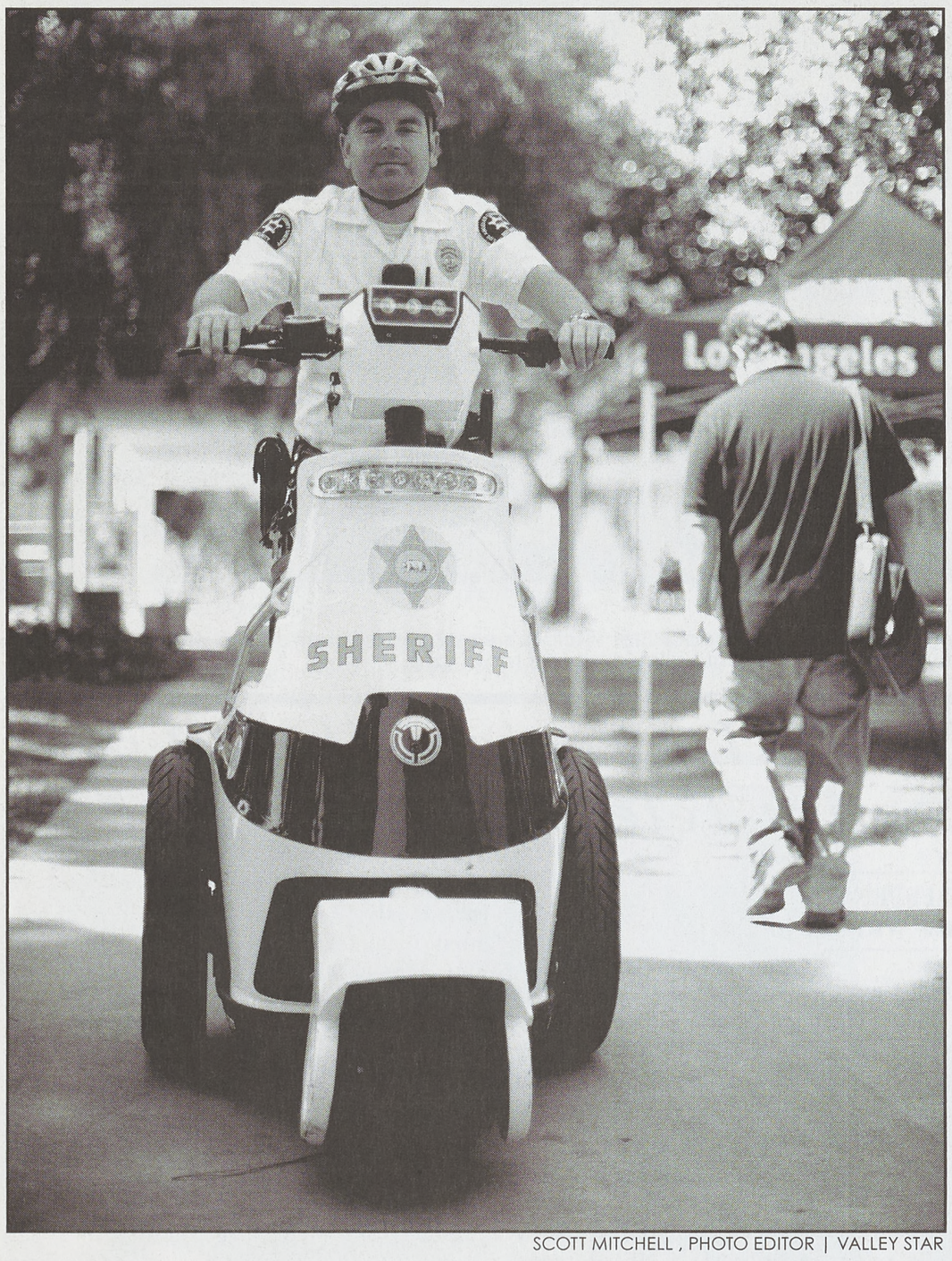
T3 Helps Terminate Campus Crime



SCOTT MITCHELL , PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

Not Your Normal Trike!
Officer Jimenez of the Sheriff's Department, cruises the campus on a new T3 Motion electric powered tricycle.

RAY BLUMHORST
STAFF WRITER

"Mindfulness, Chocolate and Stress Management" adorns the Powerpoint presentation board in the center of the Fireside Room, surrounded by food and treats. The words are the title and theme of the workshop held Wednesday, which coincided with the Valley College Health Fair.

The workshop, sponsored by the Student Health Center, was intended to inform students about stress management. Tips on maintaining a stress-free schedule and enhancing relaxation were the key topics.

Marriage and Family Therapist, Diane R. Gehart, spoke during the event about how stress can be managed with the use of "mindfulness." Gehart, who is also a California State University Northridge professor, explained that mindfulness is one of the ways to increase your tendency for a positive mood and overall acceptance related to disorders including anxiety and panic attacks.

"Mindfulness focuses in your breath as you quiet your mind and other things while observing yourself and not beatNight students first observed sheriffs and the "T3" in action last spring. The unit patrolled, lit the dark spaces on campus, rolled up and secured buildings for the evening.

It's not a Segway or Robocop, but the T3Motion is a 3-wheeler that gives Valley College's sheriffs a futuristic advantage for keeping the campus safe.

"The most often repeated response we hear is, 'What is it?'" said Sheriff's Deputy Ricky J. Baker. "We just call it the T3," he said.

USC, LAPD, the military and other law enforcement and security services already used the T3Motion for some time. In October 2006, the L.A. County Sheriff's Department observed the need for a new patrol vehicle for deputies to use in areas on campus where a full sized vehicle was impractical.

After reviewing numerous vendors, the Sheriff's Department selected the T3Motion and began testing of the vehicle on Valley's campus in February 2007.

Theft is the most frequently reported of crimes at Valley. Valley's 2008 rate for part I crimes such as theft was 3.31 per thousand students enrolled, according to the Sheriff's Department web site. That number is the lowest the 2001-2008 timeframe for this type of crime. "Valley's crime rate continued to drop in 2009," said Deputy Baker. "When we have any rise in crime in an area, we deploy accordingly."

The T3Motion can travel between 0-12 mph and costs between $6,000 - $12,000, according to Deputy Baker. The T3Motion's zero emissions make the vehicle environmentally friendly. It is also economical with an estimated operating cost of 10 cents-a-day.

Other features according to the Costa Mesa based manufacturer include a zero degree-turning radius for navigating tight spots. The driving platform puts the driver nine inches above the ground for visibility above the crowds. "We're better able to see and we're better able to be seen," said Deputy Baker. "Just our increased visibility alone is a crime deterrent."

"Valley Deputies have mixed feelings about their new security tool," said Deputy Baker. "But generally, they like the ability to respond quickly to calls, and they like the increased mobility that gets them right to the exact spot."

ON VIDEO

New on DVD

Crank 2:High Voltage (DVD & Blu-ray)

On Blu-Ray

Freddy vs. Jason
Friday
The New World - Extended Cut
The Postman
Requiem For A Dream
Set It Off
Silverado

DVD Triple Packs:
Halloween
Hellraiser
Scary Movie
Scream

NEW MUSIC

Jay-Z The Blueprint Vol. 3

Trey Songz Ready R&B/ Soul

Chevelle Sci-Fi Crimes (Pop)

Saosin In Search Of Solid Ground

Visit www.lavalleystar.com for exclusive info on upcoming events and contests.

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See you there!

Colin Hay Basks in the American Sunshine

A. RAMACHANDRAN
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

In the shadow of the Beverly Center and "Live Nude Girls" on La Cienega Blvd, on Sept. 3, Largo's Coronet Theatre featured Colin Hay, formerly of Men at Work in a solo acoustic concert.

Hay deftly interwove songs from American Sunshine, his tenth release since the group disbanded, with poignant anecdotes and sharp stand-up comedy. This repartee eased anyone who came for a nostalgia show into Hay's world and into his solo music.

From his old band's repertoire, Hay only performed "Overkill." He alluded to it earlier by impersonating his 87-year-old Scottish father; crooning and butchering the song (think the father from So I Married An Axe Murderer or the Simpsons' Groundskeeper Willie). Hay played it with orchestral perfection after relating a story of a fan who once asked him if he was going to perform that "'goats appear and fade away' song?" The actual line is "ghosts appear and fade away."

His banter also belied an impressive knowledge of golden age Hollywood. This included impressions of John Wayne visiting a Mac store and Jimmy Stewart stuttering through a call to India for technical support. This love of film makes Hay's diversification into film and television soundtrack contributions a no-brainer. His most notable, "Just Don't Think I'll Ever Get Over You" for Garden State,

Hay also joked about the grand old days and his own perception of his current profile in the music world. When asked if there was any thing particular he wanted audiences to take away from American Sunshine and his solo efforts in general, Hay said, "I don't know, just put it out there and let listeners draw their own conclusions."

Of the lead singers gone solo, Hay easily stands among and in many respects, above some of the best. He's a rare combination of virtuosity, humility and accomplishment. That's not too bad for someone who said he began his working life as a garbage man in 1973.

American Sunshine is a perfect length at 11-songs. The collection reflects upon learning, longing, loss and reconciliation without blather or being derivative. It is gut wrenching yet hopeful. The songs are radio friendly and stand as both singles and a collective offering. Listeners can purchase American Sunshine and other Colin Hay CDs at http://www.colinhay.com.

The Magic Kingdom Invades the Marvel Universe

DISNEY'S $4 BILLION TAKEOVER OF MARVEL COMICS GIVES THE MOUSE HOUSE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL FOR LIMITLESS FRANCHISES.

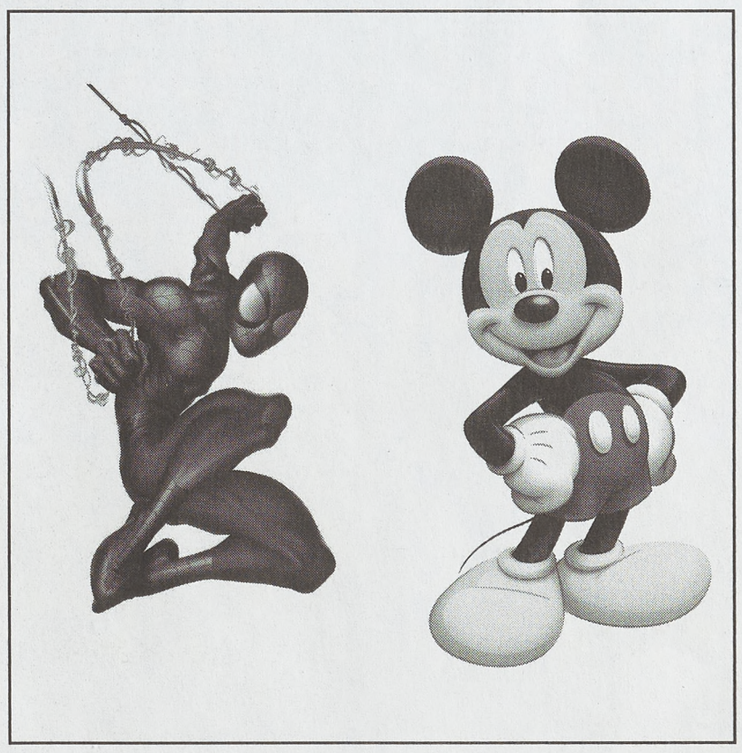
JOSH SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

When it was announced on Aug. 31 that Disney had purchased Marvel Comics for $4 billion dollars, nerds crawled out of their basement dungeons and screamed in agony fearing that that revered heroes would have to don Mickey Mouse ears. Once they realized that it was the sun burning their pasty white skin, they returned to their cave thinking of the potential Disney could bring to Marvel.

It's obvious that Magic Kingdom is tapped on franchises. Feature cartoons are not as relevant and has steadily declined since 2002, and Pixar has a contentious relationship with Disney since had purchased them in 2206. Even though Pixar tend to make money and be critically acclaimed, there is little room for franchising or sequels.. This also applies to the tween explosion of Miley and the Jonas Brothers who are yearning to break free in order to gain more artistic integrity.

Disney's new niche is live action franchises but how many times can Johnny Depp dress up like Keith Richards and lose his soul only to get it back two films later? By acquiring Marvel, every superhero can be a new franchise waiting to catch fire like Batman or Spidey. It would be great to see popular fanboy titles like Alpha Flight, Silver Surfer, or S.H.I.E.L.D. get a chance to showcase what makes them a cornerstone of the Marvel Universe.

The only concern that this merger would bring is a consistency between the movie and source material given that Disney has always been considered a family-oriented company that stays away from any objectionable content. And for the most part, Disney will still be that way. Comic book fans are not looking for Mickey or Donald to rampage through the streets of New York City clad in capes, nor will they see that. This buyout is just another extension for the company to reach a new demographic of young males that they've never really attracted. Also consider television. With Disney programs like "Hannah Montana," "Wizards of Waverly Place" and the High School Musical franchise geared towards girls, imagine the new face of Disney XD (formerly Toon Disney) playing non stop blocks of Spiderman, X-Men, Fantatic 4, and Iron Man. This not will attract a younger male demographic, but a 18- 30 male demographic looking to catch up on old reruns from their childhood.. While that sounds very dollars and cents, it's the guaranteed reason why Disney will stay true to the source material.



It's very simple. Disney wants to create the next "Dark Knight," not the next "X-Men Origins: Wolverine," and fans want to see another "Dark Knight," not another "X-Men Origins:Wolverine." It's one of the few times that capitalistic greed and artistic integrity go hand in hand to make a winner for everyone. For this merger, it's a welcomed "to be continued..."

Monarch's Fall Short in Score But Not in Learning

LUCAS THOMPSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Stepping onto the field in the Monarch's 2009 football season opener Saturday night, the team was greeted with a large crowd, fireworks and a World War II P45 Mustang fly by at the newly constructed Ventura College football complex. Though the team also met defeat losing 35-13, Coach Jim Fenwick and company are not looking to grieve their loss, but to learn from it.

Valley started the game on defense holding the opposing Ventura Pirates to their own 49 yard line following back to back tackles at the line of scrimmage by defensive lineman Kasimili Ultalia and Aitu Williams. The teams remained tied at zero until Ventura running back Gabriel Bostic carried the ball for a 28 yard touch down with 2:48 remaining in the first quarter.

"I think we did pretty well," quarterback Bret Visciglia said after the game. "They kept us in it with turnovers... (And) there's a lot we can take from this."

Though QB Visciglia would be sacked to end the Monarchs' first drive of the 2nd quarter the team would show signs of hope as the punt squad recovered a fumble deep in Pirate territory with 11:14 left in the 2nd quarter.

Following multiple completions to wide receiver Brett Ackerman and a 21-yard gain by receiver Travion Odom the team wound up at 4th and goal for a 20-yard field goal which was blocked twice by the Pirates after a holding call against Ventura gave the Monarchs another look.

"The special teams got us in a little bit of trouble (tonight)," Head Coach Jim Fenwick said.

The Pirates were quick to march the field once again with the help of speedy quarterback Antavius Sims and running back Kraig Mcpherson driving the field ending in a 20-yard touchdown pass to Nick Karam making it 14-0 Ventura with 2:29 until half.

In one of the most crucial moments of the night, the Monarchs took advantage of the remaining 2:24 of the half combining two key catches by Brett Ackerman, a face mask penalty, and a third and one touchdown by running back Michael Johnson.

Following yet another missed field goal attempt, the Monarchs fate looked promising with a 3rd quarter interception by cornerback Chris Martinez leading to a 31-yard touchdown pass to Travion Odom. Yet, the special teams faltered once more as kicker Wilmur Segura missed the extra point attempt leaving the Monarchs down 14-13.

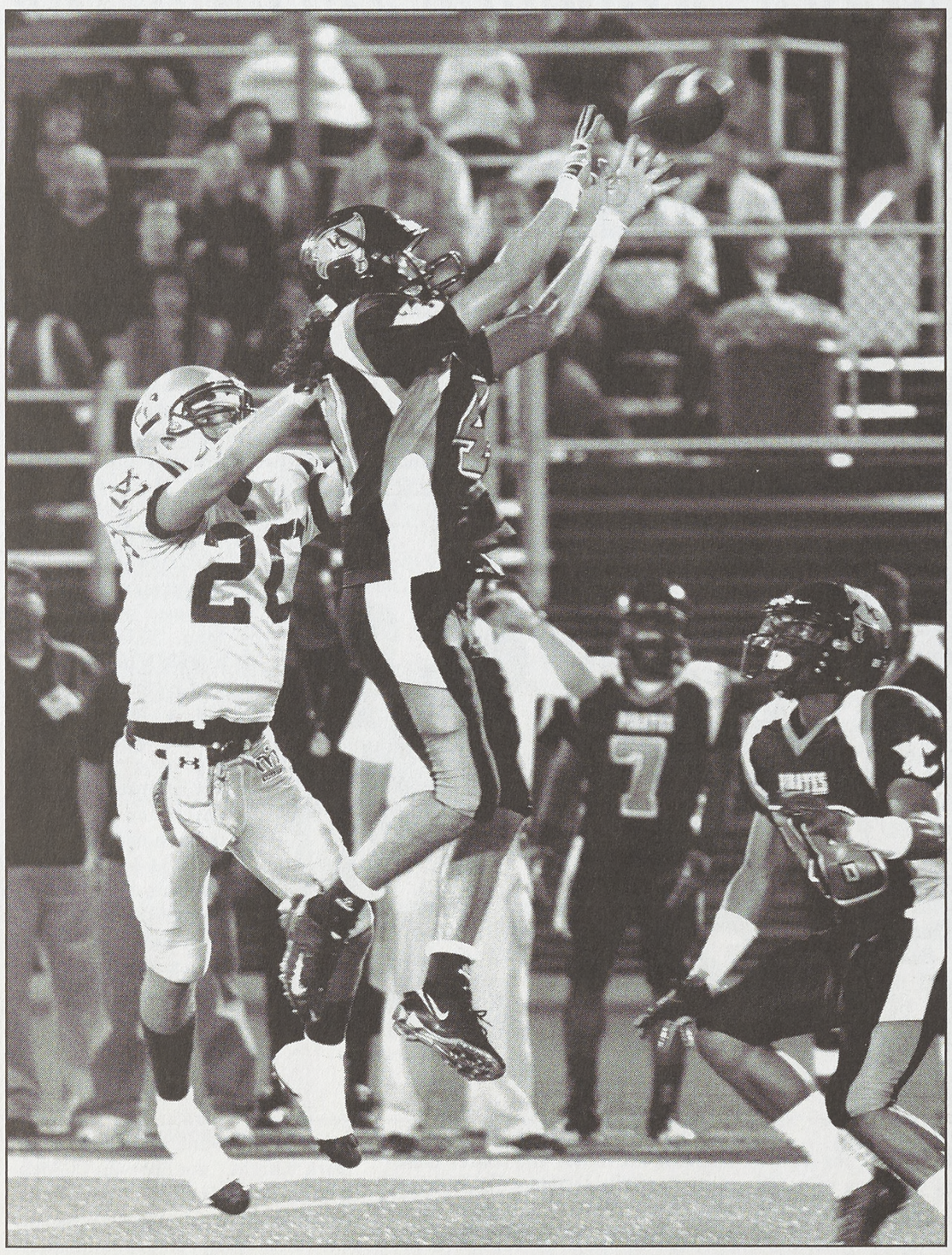
In the last quarter and a half the young Valley team showed fatigue with multiple turnovers including an interception, fumbled kickoff return and an array of sacks. The Pirates entered the Monarchs end zone three more times before the end of the game as the tired Monarchs looked for ways to defend the outside runs and screenplays Ventura threw their way.

"I think our kids are pretty tired...we've got two guys who have played O-Line for (only) five days," Coach Fenwick said after the game.

With plenty of moments of potential in Saturday's loss; the young Monarch team will take this week to look forward and prepare for their upcoming game in Bakersfield.

SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

Game of Inches- Quarterback Bret Visciglia's pass to wide receiver Brett Ackerman misconnects on an important Valley drive Saturday night.



SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

Interception turns the tide- Ventura defensive back Chad Kurz stops a monarch offensive drive with an interception of a Bret Visciglia pass to wide receiver Brett Ackerman.

The NFL Preview That Puts Reality Television to Shame...

JOSH SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

When David Bowie famously sang, "turn and face the strange, ch-ch-changes," he didn't exactly have the NFL on his mind. Fast forward 38 years and here we stand at the start of the 2009 season feeling slightly odd.

Nothing seems out of place with the almost ritualistic nature of the sweat pants and team jerseys on Sunday, nor does the ungodly price for DirectTv's NFL Sunday Ticket. What's so disconcerting about the upcoming '09 season is the unbelievably bad hype surrounding it.

This season, more than any other in recent history, has had all the early headlines and presumptive season storylines be exclusively about the player. This seems contradictory for a game that considers itself to be the ultimate team sport.

Understandably, there is something to be said about individual sport; it's what makes golf and basketball as intriguing as they are. It's another thing when individual controversy overshadows individual talent. Let's look at the preseason headlines:

Terrell Owens signs with the Buffalo Bills after only every other team declared that they would not sign him. How many times do we have to watch T.O. implode in front of us before we realize his personality is better set for reality TV on VH1? Oh, wait....

Brett Favre returns with the Minnesota Vikings. For all the accolades Favre has, his records of mostunwanted un-retirements (previously held by Michael Jordan) and most subse-quent retirement tours (previously heldby the Rolling Stones) are beginning to outshine what he did on the field.

Anquan Boldin and Brandon Marshall want more money. Marshall, only two years into his four year contract wants a big money contract extension even though he has publicly questioned the Denver Broncos management about recent trades and has admitted to dogging it in practice.

Boldin, the Arizona Cardinal wide out, doesn't just want a fat new contract but one that beats fellow receiver Larry Fitzgerald, who holds the biggest contract for a receiver in the league. The petty ballyhooing and cry babying isn't helping either of their cases.

Lastly we have Plaxico Burress who single handedly ended his career and took top spot in the "world's biggest idiot" contest. In one fail swoop, Burress ended his career, ruined his reputation and faces jail time for bringing an unlicensed gun into a Manhattan nightclub. To make matters worse, Burress shot himself in the leg when his gun fell down his pants because his pants were overly baggy.

Maybe this is just an aberration as far as NFL seasons go. Maybe it isn't. Mr. Goodell should be aware of the similar transition the NBA made in the late 90s early 2000s and the public relations mess that it created. What a strange way to welcome the 2009 season. Ch-Ch-Changes indeed.

MONARCH UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS:

MEN'S WATER POLO:
COACH: JIM MCMILLAN

SEPT. 11-12 GOLDEN WEST TOURNAMENT @ GOLDEN WEST

FOOTBALL:
COACH: JIM FENWICK

SEPT. 12 VS BAKERSFIELD RENEGADES 7PM @ BAKERSFIELD

WOMEN'S SOCCER:
COACH: SHANE WATKINS

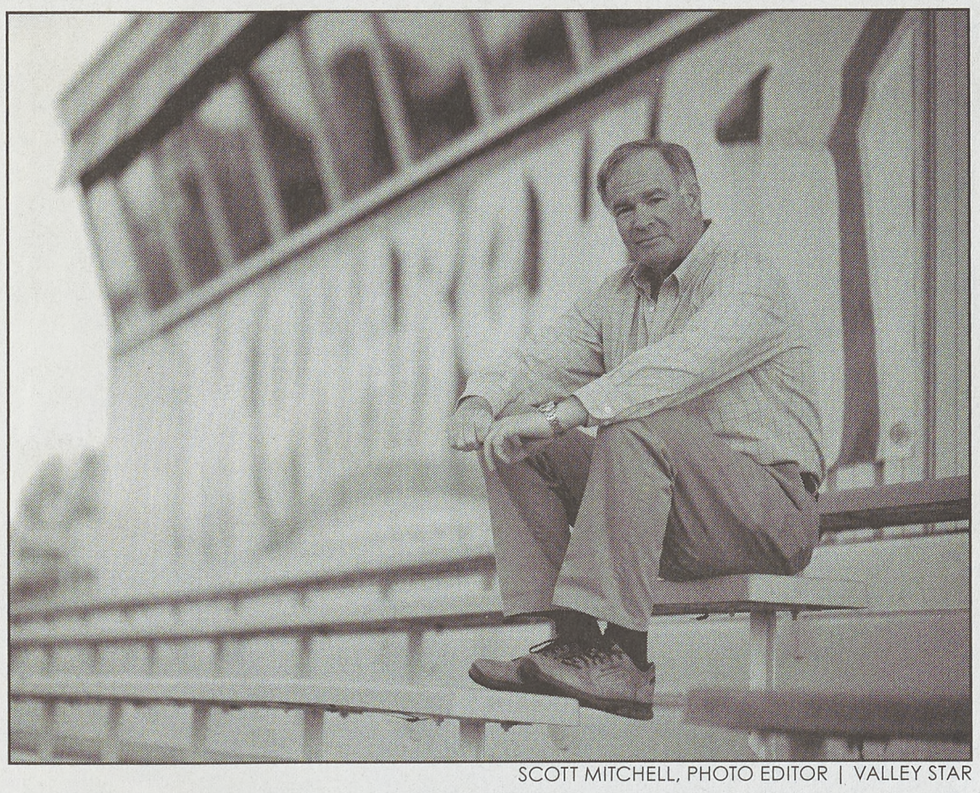
SEPT. 11 VS SAN DIEGO CITY 4PM @ VALLEY

CROSS COUNTRY:
COACH: MEN'S- FRANCOIS WOLMAN WOMEN'S- YANNICK ALLAIN

SEPT 12. FRESNO INVITATIONAL 10AM @ WOODWARD PARK (FRESNO)

WOMEN'S WATER POLO:
COACH: MICHAEL SANTO

SEPT. 10 VS EL CAMINO COLLEGE 3PM @ EL CAMINO



SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

Valley's Sports Man - Dale Beck, the information director for the athletic department, has been an intergral part of the Valley College sports program for many years.

Valley's Dedicated Voice: Dale Beck

CHARLES RANDLE
STAFF WRITER

Valley College has gone through a face-lift over the last few years, but as you survey the new landscape, and take in the newly constructed buildings on campus, there is one fixture that remains the same; Dale Beck.

Beck is returning for his 15th year as Valley's sports information director. He also serves as an announcer at Valley's home football and basketball games, a part-time job that after almost three decades, he still has passion for.

"I love announcing I always have, I just love the microphone," said Beck, who goes on to explain one of his goals at the games. "I really try and get their names out there so the press can pick up on it... I realize it may be the only time a player will get their name in ink, and hopefully when they look back in 20 years they have something to show their kids."

The transformation of the campus has included a transformation of technology, something that Beck has witnessed during his 15 years.

"We've gone from pencil and paper, to computers," stated Beck. This fact rings true with Valley's Web Site that hosts up to 5,000 visitors a month inquiring about its athletic department.

The more time spent with Beck, the more you begin to get a feel for his dedication to Valley. Athletic Director Diedra Stark has worked with Beck for many years and explains the importance of his presence on campus.

"He is professional, enthusiastic and dedicated, we are lucky to have him," she said. "No matter what you ask him to do, he says 'yes' before you finish asking him."

Along with his job titles as sports information director, public address for the games and full-time job at the Job Training Center as Program Specialist; Beck can add one more title to his already full resume - Valley College Alumni. Beck attended Valley College in the 70s before going onto to graduate from San Diego State as a journalism major, with an emphasis in broadcasting.

"Valley was a great place to get my pre-requisites finished, I had a wonderful experience here, and I believe it's still a great place if you remain focused and get what you need done here."

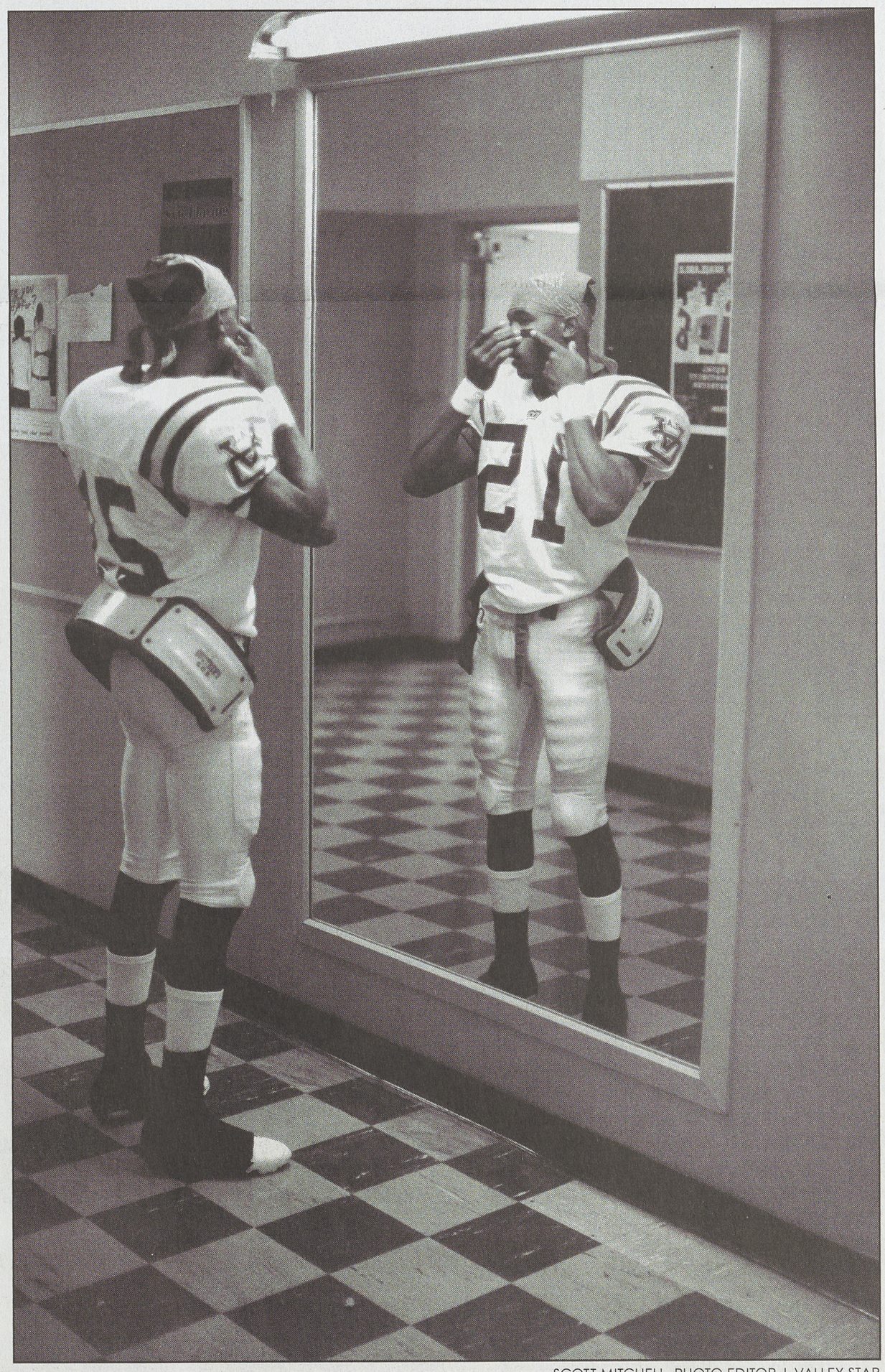
This year, another technological advancement will be put into the Valley football games. Referees will be wearing microphones allowing them to give the calls directly to the audience, similar to those used by NFL officials. What will not change will be the passionate and dedicated voice that has helped guide Monarch sports through half of its 60-year existence.

DANE NAIMY | VALLEY STAR

GOAL! - Forwards Melissa Galmez (23) and Kayta Kroell (13), celebrate after Kroell scored Valley's first goal. Valley won their second game 2-1 against Pasadena last friday.

NOTE:
THE MONARCH GALS CELEBRATE THEIR 2-1 VICTORY OVER PASADENA CITY COLLEGE LAST FRIDAY.

LEAD BY HEAD COACH SHANE WATKINS THE MONARCH SOCCER TEAM IS 1-1 WITH A LOSS AGAINST TAFT COLLEGE; RECONCILING WITH A WIN AGAINST PCC.



SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

Suiting Up - Monarch football player, Robert Robinson, placing non reflective tape on his face before the season opener on the road against the Ventura Pirates, Saturday. The monarchs were defeated 35-13 after the ventura pirates entered the valley endzone three More times

SCOTT MITCHELL, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

SWIMMING UNDER THE STARS - A woman works on her back stroke in the shallow pool as the sun sets on a southern California night. High temperatures and closures of public pools seem to keep the water area busy.

A Place To Gather, Train, Swim & Chill

SCOTT MITCHELL
PHOTO EDITOR

Although summer is technically over, California's comfortable climate remains perfect for a dip in Valley College's newly opened outdoor pools. The LAVC Community Services Department offers year round lap swimming and swim lessons to the public through the Community Education Swimming Program.

The Monarch swimming and diving teams now have a heated, state of the art training facility to call their own.

Darlene Bible, the Athletic Director at Harvard -Westlake School conducts a swimming program for youngsters after school.

FUTURE PHELPS - A young swimmer grabs the edge of the pool during a private class.

ENERGY PLUS - Swimmers practice Monday thru Friday.

OLYMPIC HOPEFULS - Scores of youngsters train and take swimming lessons during the week. A young man gets in one last back dive before the end of his day.

LIL MERMAID - Swimming in the deep end under the high dive.